

Opportunity to Object to Lakes Basin Project

The Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest has completed the **Lakes Basin Project Final Environmental Assessment (EA)**. Notification was mailed out on May 29, 2018 to those who previously submitted specific written comments related to the project. The Lakes Basin Project would include mechanical thinning, grapple piling, hand thinning, hand-piling, planting of trees, and underburning on 5,463 acres of National Forest System Lands. The project activities also include road maintenance, road reconstruction, temporary road construction, and temporary and non-system road obliteration as necessary to meet project access needs and reduce transportation system effects. The activities proposed in the Lakes Basin Project aim to promote healthy, diverse, fire-resilient forests, maintain and promote aspen on the landscape, enhance meadows, and improve water quality.

The project area is located less than one mile southwest of the town of Graeagle, California, on the Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest, in Plumas and Sierra Counties, California. The project area includes approximately 12,674 acres of National Forest System lands within and adjacent to the Lakes Basin Recreation Area (LBRA). The project would encompass all or portions of T22N, R11E, Sec. 36, T22N, R12E, Sec. 21-22, 27-29, 31-34, T21N, R11E, Sec. 1, 12-13, 24, T21N, R12E, Sec. 3-6, 7-10, 15-18, 19-22, 30, Mount Diablo Base Meridian (MDBM).

The Responsible Official who will issue a decision on this project is Matthew Jedra, Beckwourth District Ranger. The Final EA, Draft Decision Notice, and other project information, including maps, can be found on the project website: www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=40964

Additional information regarding this proposed project can be obtained from: Gretchen Jehle, Beckwourth Ranger District, 36 Mohawk Rd, PO Box 7, Blairsden, CA 96103, 530-836-7157, gjehle@fs.fed.us.

This proposed project is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B.

Eligibility to File Objections

Objections will be accepted only from those who have previously submitted specific, written comments regarding the proposed project either during scoping or other designated opportunity for public comment in accordance with § 218.5(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted timely, specific written comments regarding the proposed project unless based on new information arising after designated opportunities.

Individual members of organizations must have submitted their own comments to meet the requirements of eligibility as an individual, objections received on behalf of an organization are considered as those of the organization only. If an objection is submitted on behalf of a number of individuals or organizations, each individual or organization listed must meet the eligibility requirement of having previously submitted comments on the project (§ 218.7). Names and addresses of objectors will become part of the public record.

Contents of an Objection

Incorporation of documents by reference in the objection is permitted only as provided for at § 218.8(b). Minimum content requirements of an objection are identified in (§ 218.8(d) include:

- Objector's name and address with a telephone number if available; with signature or other verification of authorship supplied upon request;
- Identification of the lead objector when multiple names are listed, along with verification upon request;
- Name of project, name and title of the responsible official, national forest/ranger district of project, and
- Sufficient narrative description of those aspects of the proposed project objected to, specific issues related to the project, how environmental law, regulation, or policy would be violated, and suggested remedies which would resolve the objection.
- Statement demonstrating the connection between prior specific written comments on this project and the content of the objection, unless the objection issue arose after the designated opportunities for comment.

Filing an Objection

Written objections, including any attachments, must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Reviewing Officer at: Daniel Lovato, Forest Supervisor, c/o Katherine Carpenter, Plumas National Forest Supervisor's Office, 159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971, fax 530-283-7746, within 45 days following the publication date of this legal notice in the newspaper of record. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered objections are: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted in a format such as an email message, portable document format (.pdf), plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), and Word (.doc or .docx) to **objections-pacificsouthwest-plumas@fs.fed.us**. It is the responsibility of Objectors to ensure their objection is received in a timely manner (§ 218.9). Please include **Lakes Basin Project** in the subject line of electronic messages.

The publication date in the *Feather River Bulletin* and *Portola Reporter* newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection of this project. Those wishing to object to this proposed project should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.